CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

     1. A cordless telephone, comprising:

5   a remote handset;

a base unit matched to said remote handset; and

a digital audio bit stream player integrated within at least one of said remote handset and said base unit.

10   2. The cordless telephone according to claim 1, wherein:

said digital audio bit stream player is integrated within said remote handset.

3. The cordless telephone according to claim 1, wherein:

15   said digital audio bit stream player is an MPEG audio player.

4. The cordless telephone according to claim 3, wherein:

said MPEG audio player is an MP3 player.

20   5. The cordless telephone according to claim 2, wherein:

said digital audio bit stream player is an MP3 player.

6. A method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone, comprising:

25   playing MP3 music from a remote handset of a cordless telephone.

7. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 6, wherein:

30   said MP3 music is pre-loaded before said step of playing.

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8. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 7, wherein:

said MP3 music is played substantially real-time as it is

5   received by said cordless telephone.

9. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 6, further comprising:

muting said playing of said pre-loaded MP3 music when said

10 remote handset is active in a current telephone call.

10. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 8, wherein:

said muting pauses said playing of said pre-loaded MP3

15 music.

11. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 6, further comprising:

downloading digital bit stream music to said remote handset

20 from a remote bit stream audio source.

12. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 11, further comprising:

storing said downloaded digital bit stream music in a base

25 unit of said cordless telephone.

13. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 11, further comprising:

storing said downloaded digital bit stream music in said

30 remote handset of said cordless telephone.

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14. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 13, wherein:

said downloaded digital bit stream music is stored in Flash memory in said remote handset.

15. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 11, wherein:

said remote bit stream audio source is accessible by said remote handset via an Internet.

16. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 11, wherein:

said digital bit stream music is comprised in an MPEG format.

17. The method of integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 16, wherein:

said MPEG format is an MP3 format.

18. Apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone, comprising:

means for playing pre-loaded MP3 music from a remote handset of a cordless telephone.

19. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 18, further comprising:

means for muting said playing of said pre-loaded MP3 music when said remote handset is active in a current telephone call.

20. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 19, wherein:

said means for muting pauses said playing of said pre-loaded MP3 music.

21. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 18, further comprising:

means for downloading digital bit stream music to said remote handset from a remote bit stream audio source.

22. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 21, further comprising:

means for storing said downloaded digital bit stream music in a base unit of said cordless telephone.

23. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 21, further comprising:

means for storing said downloaded digital bit stream music in said remote handset of said cordless telephone.

24. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 23, wherein:

said means for storing stores said downloaded digital bit stream music in Flash memory in said remote handset.

25. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 21, wherein:

said remote bit stream audio source is accessible by said remote handset via an Internet.

26. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 21, wherein:

said digital bit stream music is comprised in an MPEG format.

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27. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 26, wherein:

said MPEG format is an MP3 format.

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28. The apparatus for integrating a digital bit stream music player in a cordless telephone according to claim 21, further comprising:

means for decompressing MPEG formatted music into digital music samples for digital to analog output.

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